GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3299
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2001
NANDA DEVI BIOSPHERE RESERVE
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government of Uttranchal proposed to remove all restriction for attracting tourists; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) The Nanda Devi Area was designated as Biosphere Reserve on 4.2.1988 comprising a geographical area of 2,236.74 sq. km., out of which 624.26 sq. km. comprising Nanda Devi National Park was designated as core zone.The area of the reserve was extended on 7.2.2000 to 5,860.69 sq. km. by adding parts of contiguous areas of Valley of Flowers, Malari and Sunderdhunga.The core zone was also extended to 712.12 sq. km. by including Valley of Flowers National Park in the core zone.As per guidelines issued by the Central Government, the core zone is to be kept free from all human pressures external to the system. Alternate livelihood options are supported for local inhabitants. The Biosphere Reserve was designated to facilitate long term protection of a representative site of Himalayan high lands biogeographic province through conservation, development and logistic support.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.